

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7 of the Second Extraordinary Session

By Kelsey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ernest Chism of Germantown.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ernest Chism; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Chism was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chism served with acumen and alacrity as principal of Germantown High School for twenty-eight years, in which position he earned the respect of his colleagues, staff, and students alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a native of Hayti, Missouri, Mr. Chism worked at Westwood High School and Hillcrest High School prior to being named the principal of Raleigh-Egypt High School in 1969; he became principal of Germantown High School in 1973 and retired from that position in 2002; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Chism's leadership, Germantown High School obtained an award-winning theater, television broadcasts in the school, and success in athletics at the local, state, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, Germantown High School's concentration on academic achievements produced numerous noteworthy graduates, including local politicians, professional athletes, actors, actresses, broadcasters, and journalists; and

WHEREAS, during Ernest Chism's tenure as principal, the school also hosted a variety of prominent public figures, including President George H.W. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, and an official delegation from the People's Republic of China; and

WHEREAS, in honor of his many accomplishments and commitment to education, the driveway on the west side of Germantown High School's campus was named Chism Alley; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his tenure as principal of Germantown High School, Mr. Chism served as a member of the Shelby County Board of Education; he was also elected as an alderman to the Germantown Board of Mayor and Aldermen in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chism was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Chism enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-three years, Alyce Ann Barnes Chism, and was the proud father of George Chism and Lee-Ann Kight; and the loving grandfather of four grandchildren, Barnes Chism, Anna Chism, Max Kight, and Jacob Kight; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Chism leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ernest Chism, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr.Chism.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.